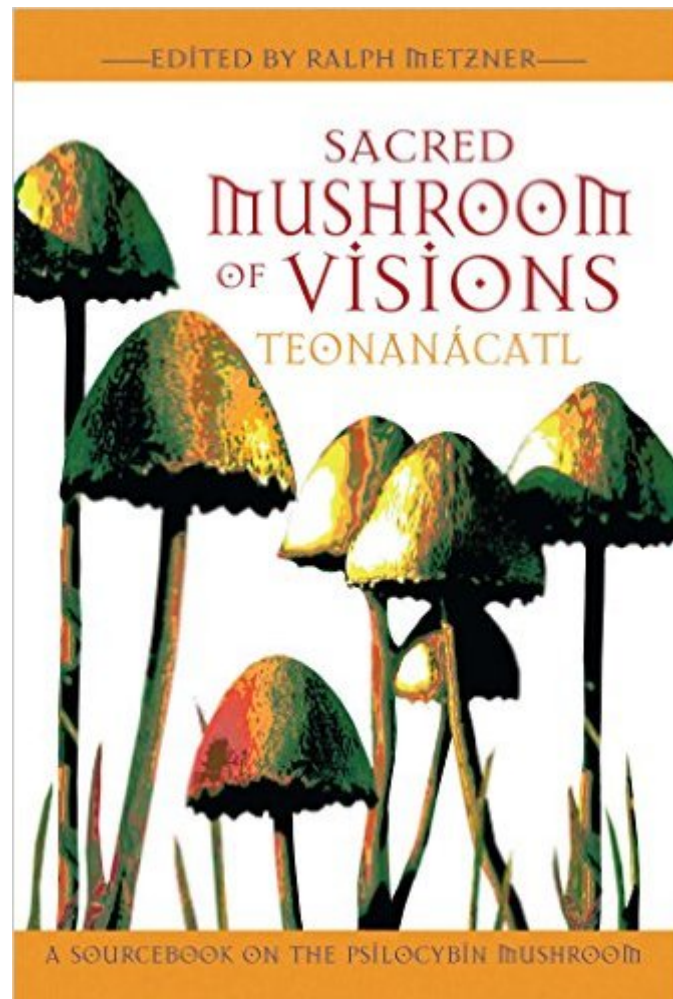


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Sacred Mushroom Of Visions: Teonanācatl: A Sourcebook On The Psilocybin Mushroom



Synopsis

Over 30 contributors share their expertise on the chemical, biological, cultural, psychological, and experiential dimensions of psilocybin mushrooms • Describes in vivid detail the consciousness-expanding experiences of psychoactive mushroom users • Provides firsthand accounts of the controversial Harvard Psilocybin Project, including the Concord Prison and Good Friday studies Teonanācatl was the name given to the visionary mushrooms used in ancient Mesoamerican shamanic ceremonies, mushrooms that contain psilocybin, the psychoactive agent identified by Swiss chemist Albert Hofmann, the discoverer of LSD. The rediscovery of these visionary mushrooms by the Mazatec healer Maria Sabina and mycologist R. Gordon Wasson ignited a worldwide mushroom culture that inspired the consciousness revolution of the 1960s. This book describes in vivid detail the consciousness-expanding experiences of psychoactive mushroom users--from artists to psychologists--and the healing visionary inspiration they received. It provides firsthand accounts of studies performed in the controversial Harvard Psilocybin Project, including the Concord Prison study and the Good Friday study. It describes how the use of the psilocybe mushroom spread from the mountains of Mexico into North America, Asia, and Europe by seekers of consciousness-expanding experiences. It also details how psilocybin has been used since the 1960s in psychotherapy, prisoner rehabilitation, the enhancement of creativity, and the induction of mystical experiences and is being studied as a treatment for obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD).

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Customer Reviews

This book, like the one on Ayauascha, is edited by Ralph Metzner and is a collection of articles and essays on sacred mushrooms. The content is a bit too clinical, two articles by psychologists which are very dry. I guess if you have not read any of McKenna's stuff you might get something here. The book is saved from boredom by some good information on the chemistry of the active ingredients and by some of the stories of peoples journeys with the fungi teachers. So while I would include this book in an exhaustive reading list on shroomology I would not start here. If you are more interested in the experiential side of things better to start with Mushroom Wisdom: How Shamans Cultivate Spiritual Consciousness by Martin W. Ball. That book will get you more into the head of the mushroom shaman and how to approach these spiritual beings. If you are looking for additional philosophical musings you can't go wrong with most anything McKenna has done. And don't forget to check in on articles, videos, and books by Paul Stamets. So all in all this book did have some good information but was not much fun reading.

I have always been fascinated by this, I have ate this particular species before, I honestly believe it is the REAL sacrament from the bible, and if you understand prophetic terminology then you know Exodus 13:20 is about this. what is said doesn't really describe the feeling and state of this, but I don't think I could do any better, don't really think anyone could.

I cannot recommend this book enough. I keep it quite close to me, and have read it twice. Why do I like it? Well, it has a lot of interesting information, but my favourite part of the book is the latter part which includes peoples magic mushroom reports of their experiences, and this is where it is different from any other book about psychedelics I have read before. It encourages a very responsible way of approaching what can be an extraordinary sacred experience. That instead of using such powerful drugs solely for 'recreational' experiences, or us "waiting" and depending on authorities from 'mental health' to act as 'professional' guidance, that we can do this our very self if we show great respect for what we are about to experience; which is a complete opening---a flowering interunion between our deepest selves and others and nature, and that whatever we want to explore is our "intent" (a term used a lot) which we are advised to focus on before we enter fully into the trip.

Great selection of pieces here. Most interesting were the articles of various writers experiences. The piece by Leary was a bit inane, but the others make up for it. The writing by the editor is also very interesting to read.

This is an excellent book! My favorite parts are the personal experiences of people on psilocybin. One experience in particular sticks out. There is a man that works in a methadone clinic and he wanted to know what the methadone, or lack of it was like, so when he took psilocybin mushrooms, instead of a typical mushroom trip, he had a horrific experience of methadone withdrawals. This book is really good for explaining how important personal intention's are before the mushroom trip. Over and over people would state what they wanted to learn before the mushroom trip and they would learn what they wanted to know. I highly recommend this book and "2010 the Return of Quetzacoatl" by Daniel Pinchbeck.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. If you are a psychedelic nerd like myself, this book will prove fascinating. The account by Timothy Leary, of his first mushroom experience, is a highlight. Definitely a good read.

I'm fascinated by the descriptions of people's individual journeys -- it makes for wonderful storytelling. I appreciate the author's continued passion for exploration in support of spiritual growth and expanded consciousness. I've read several of Metzner's books and have never been disappointed.

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